

c0c0n 2026 CSEA Track Day 1 | Agenda

09 October 2026 | Friday Please note that the agenda may be subject to minor changes. The event will be photographed and images and footage may be shared through Childlight's website, social media and other communications channels, and by partner organisations. **If you wish to opt out**, please notify the organising team at registration. For information on Childlight, please visit www.childlight.org & CSEA Track website: csea.c0c0n.org

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER(S) / LEAD	DURATION
09:00-10:50	Inaugural Ceremony	N/A	110 min
10:50-11:00	Arrival in CSEA Track Hall	N/A	10 min
11:00-11:05	Welcome & CSEA Track Opening	Kelvin Lay, Childlight & MC	5 min
11:05-11:45	Keynote Speech 1: Children Can't Wait: Strengthening the Systems Children Depend On	Zoe Lambourne, Childlight	40 min
11:50-12:15	Presentation 1: Rethinking Child Protection in a Digitally Connected World	Navin Sellaraju Sukumar & Nida Zamani Siddique, Railway Children	25 min
12:20-12:45	Presentation 2: Cognitive and Social Preventative Approaches to Online Child Safety. Insights from the all-Kerala MHFR Programme by Citizen Digital Foundation in Partnership with Kerala Police Cyberdome	Nidhi Sudhan & Farzana Simran Anzarudeen, Citizen Digital Foundation	25 min
12:50-13:15	Presentation 3: Tackling Complex CSAM Investigations in a Digital Age	Pete Pilley, Kindred Tech	25 min
13:15-14:00	Lunch & Networking	-	45 min
14:00-14:40	Keynote Speech 2: Synthetic Child Sexual Abuse Material: An INTERPOL Perspective on Emerging Law Enforcement Challenges	Karolina Mason, INTERPOL	40 min
14:45-15:00	Presentation 4: KidGlove Update	Nidhi Sudhan, Citizen Digital Foundation	15 min
15:05-15:45	Panel 1 Discussion - Senior Leaders, India: Leading the CSEA Response in Your State/Command	Moderators: Childlight Invited Panel Members	40 min
15:45-16:00	Tea & Coffee Break	-	15 min
16:00-16:25	Presentation 5: From Response to Prevention: Building Protective Environments for Children in the Digital Age	Indrani Bhattacharya, Child in Need Institute	25 min
16:30-16:55	Presentation 6: AI and the Child: Mapping Global Harms, Emerging Tactics, and Points of Vulnerability	Chitra Iyer, Space2Grow	25 min
17:00	Closing Ceremony	Kelvin Lay, Childlight & Ankit Asokan, Kerala Police	-

c0c0n 2026 CSEA Track Day 2 | Agenda

10 October 2026 | Saturday

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER(S) / LEAD	DURATION
08:50-09:00	Arrival in CSEA Track Hall & Welcome	Doug Marshall, Childlight & MC	10 min
09:00-09:40	Keynote Speech 3: Building a National Response to Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse: Lessons from the UK's Child Abuse Image Database (CAID), Victim Identification Capability and Child Protection Infrastructure	Martin James, Norfolk Police	40 min
09:45-10:10	Presentation 7: Keeping Children Safe Online: An Assessment of India's Policy & Enforcement Landscape	Aparajita Bharti, The Quantum Hub	25 min
10:15-10:40	Presentation 8: From Research to Reform: India's Evolving Legal Response to AI-Generated CSAM	Prerna Deep, Childlight	25 min
10:40-10:55	Tea & Coffee Break	-	15 min
11:00-11:40	Panel 2 Discussion - Meta & Google directly reporting CSAM to India - What Opportunities and Challenges does this Bring?	Moderators: Childlight & invited panel members	40 min
11:45-12:10	Presentation 9: Understanding the Economics of CSAM/CSEM in India	Meghna Bal, Esya Centre	25 min
12:15-12:40	Presentation 10: Industrialisation of Cyber Crimes, TTPs and Agentic Investigations	Ram Ganesh, Cyber Eye	25 min
12:40-13:30	Lunch & Networking	-	50 min
13:30-14:10	Keynote Speech 4: AI for Safer Children - Building your AI capacity to Save Children	Maria Eira, UNICRI, Capt. Abdulla Alhashmi, UAE Ministry of Interior	40 min
14:15-14:40	Presentation 11: Childhood Trauma vs Adult Trauma - What is the Difference? A Brief Introduction to how Psychological Trauma during Early Life Development Can Impact Children in Different and Profound ways.	Laura Wood, Childlight	25 min
14:45-15:10	Presentation 12: Systems Strengthening - Using a Standards Framework to Strengthen the Law Enforcement Systems to Investigate Online CSEA	Lydia Davenport, Childlight	25 min
15:10-15:25	Tea & Coffee Break	-	15 min
15:25-15:40	Presentation 13: Hackathon Update	Pete Pilley, Kindred Tech	15 min
15:40-16:00	Looking Ahead in India: From Evidence to Action	Kelvin Lay, Childlight & Ankit Asokan, Kerala Police	20 min
16:00	Closing Ceremony	Kelvin Lay, Childlight & Ankit Asokan, Kerala Police	

CSEA Track Day Speakers



Zoe Lambourne

Chief Operating Officer,
Childlight



Navin Sellaraju Sukumar

Chief Executive Officer,
Railway Children India



Nida Zamani Siddique

Programme Manager,
Railway Children India



Nidhi Sudhan

Co-founder & Director,
Citizen Digital Foundation



Farzana Simran Anzarudeen

Research and
Communications Lead,
Citizen Digital Foundation



Peter Pilley

Founder & DevOps Architect,
Pathfinder Labs & Kindred Tech



Karolina Mason

Specialized Officer –
Safeguarding, Crimes
Against Children Unit,
INTERPOL



Indrani Bhattacharya

CEO & Secretary,
Child in Need Institute (CINI)



Chitra Iyer

Co-founder & CEO,
Space2Grow



Martin James ("Bart")

National Victim
Identification Coordinator,
UK Home Office CAID



Aparajita Bharti

Founding Partner
TQH Consulting



Sidharth Deb

Associate Director,
TQH Consulting

CSEA Track Day Speakers



Prerna Deep

Advocate, Supreme Court of India and Global Data Fellow, Childlight



Meghna Bal

Director,
Esys Centre



Ram Ganesh

Founder & CEO,
CyberEye and CrimeOS AI



Maria Eira

AI Expert, Centre for AI and Robotics,
UNICRI



Laura Carolyn Wood

Paediatrician and Director,
VITA Foundation



Lydia Davenport

Manager, Technical
Advisory Program (C-TAP),
Childlight



Abdulla Alhashmi

Head of the Permanent
Alliances Section,
International Affairs Bureau,
UAE Ministry of Interior

NOTES

CSEA Track | c0c0n 2026

9-10 October 2026

9-10 October 2026

Register now!

2026 Into the Light Global Index: Official Launch Event

Unveiling new global evidence on the scale and prevalence of child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Free and open to all.

Following the CSEA Track at c0c0n 2026, delegates are warmly invited to join Childlight for four side events taking place in Manila ahead of the 2nd Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children. All four events are free, open to all and will be livestreamed.

1 2026 Into the Light Global Index Launch: From Evidence to Action on Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA)

Unveiling findings from Childlight's new Into the Light Index on Global CSEA and exploring how better evidence can drive coordinated national action to prevent CSEA.

16 November 2026 | 13:00-17:00 (Philippines Time)

Register: 2026-into-the-light-global-index-launch.eventbrite.co.uk

3 Protecting Children in the Digital Information Environment: Evidence and Policy Action on Social Media and Technology-Facilitated Harm

With the International Panel on the Information Environment: emerging scientific evidence on technology-facilitated risks, social media and evidence-informed policy and regulatory action.

17 November 2026 | 13:00-14:30 (Philippines Time)

Register: protecting-children-in-the-digital-information-environment.eventbrite.co.uk

2 The Lancet Commission on Violence Against Women and Violence Against Children: What the Latest Evidence Means for Policy and Practice

Emerging global evidence on the scale, costs, prevention and response to violence, and what it means for policy, investment and intervention.

17 November 2026 | 09:00-12:00 (Philippines Time)

Register: lancet-commission-on-VAW-and-VAC.eventbrite.co.uk

4 Strengthening National Law Enforcement Responses to Technology-Facilitated Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Exploring stronger intelligence, coordination, and evidence-informed practice, alongside new evidence from more than 90 countries and territories.

17 November 2026 | 14:30-17:00 (Philippines Time)

Register: strengthening-national-law-enforcement-responses-to-TFCSEA.eventbrite.co.uk

REGISTER NOW - choose one or more events and book your place in Manila or online.

For event queries: childlight.org/contact-us | Conference information: manila.endviolenceagainstchildrenconference.org

Thank you

Our sincere thanks to Kerala Police for co-hosting the CSEA Track and for their partnership and support in bringing this event together.



We also extend our heartfelt thanks to **all our speakers, panellists and partner organisations** for sharing their expertise, insights and experience, and for contributing to such important conversations.

And to all our delegates — thank you for your participation, engagement and commitment throughout the CSEA Track. Your perspectives, questions and contributions have been an essential part of these two days.

Thank you for being part of the CSEA Track at c0c0n 2026 and for our shared commitment to creating a safer world for children.

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2025 INTO THE LIGHT

Index on Global Child Sexual
Exploitation and Abuse

Executive Summary

The logo for the Human Dignity Foundation, consisting of the words "HUMAN DIGNITY FOUNDATION" in white capital letters.

**HUMAN
DIGNITY
FOUNDATION**



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



UNSW
SYDNEY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Childlight is pleased to launch the 2025 edition of its Into the Light Index on Global Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (ITL Index 2025), which includes estimates of the scale of child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA) in countries across Western Europe and South Asia. This country-level approach provides governments, civil society and other actors with evidence that is tailored and context specific. Over the coming years, this approach will be expanded to other regions, with our 2026 edition already set to focus on countries in North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, and East Asia and the Pacific.

ITL Index 2025 is an evolution from that published in 2024: we have deepened our data to country level estimates, included both technology-facilitated and in-person (offline) abuse, and integrated new data sources. Rather than simply explaining the data shown in the Index, the supplemental thematic analysis report highlights the cross-cutting trends, patterns and insights that the Index uncovers.

This executive summary provides an overview of these findings, which are discussed in more detail in the full report. It can be read as a standalone document, or alongside our online products: our [Interactive Index Dashboard](#), [Technical Note](#) and open access data archive, for greater depth.

We hope that whatever your role, you find this Index a powerful tool to catalyse data-driven change – **because children can't wait.**

Key findings

ITL Index 2025 expands the number and type of data sources drawn into our analysis to include data from representative surveys, policing, helplines and child sexual abuse material (CSAM). The key findings presented below are linked to the thematic sections of the supplemental thematic analysis report.

Western Europe and South Asia in focus

This year, we explored both in-person (offline) and technology-facilitated abuse across multiple data sources, with a focus on prevalence, frontline data and CSAM indicators for countries in Western Europe and South Asia. These two regions were identified based on our ITL Index 2024, in which both regions showed a high prevalence of technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and abuse (TF-CSEA) and/or CSAM, but with differing demographic and data landscapes.

CSEA prevalence and CSAM: Western Europe

An estimated 4.7% of children in Western Europe were reported as experiencing rape before the age of 18, and 7.4% as being sexually assaulted, with a higher prevalence of abuse among females in both of these figures.

For TF-CSEA, we estimate that 19.6% of children have experienced online solicitation before the age of 18, and 13.5% in the past year. This subtype of TF-CSEA was well captured in the evidence

base: studies measured both lifetime prevalence (before the age of 18) and past-year recall, and data were available from a wide range of countries. In terms of child sexual abuse material/image-based sexual abuse (CSAM/IBSA), 2.5% and 2.2% of children reported this type of TF-CSEA, in relation to lifetime (before the age of 18) and past year prevalence, respectively. Western European countries also frequently reported prevalence estimates of exposure to unwanted sexual content. This type of exposure was experienced by 6.7% of children before the age of 18 and by 20.2% in the past year.

Gender-based differences in TF-CSEA are evident throughout the data for Western Europe. Online solicitation was reported by 17.9% of females and 11% of males during the past year. These gender-based disparities were even more apparent when examining lifetime (before the age of 18) prevalence, which showed an average prevalence of 26.3% for females and 14.7% for males. A relatively small difference between males and females was found in experience of CSAM/IBSA, both in lifetime (before the age of 18) and past year. However, again females appear to be more affected than males by this type of harm, which is in line with recent findings. Conversely, more males than females were exposed to unwanted sexual content in the past year.

Western Europe was the internet host for the majority of CSAM in 2023 and 2024. In 2024, the Netherlands accounted for a disproportionate amount of CSAM, with the highest CSAM volume (over 60% of all reported CSAM from Western Europe was associated with sites in the Netherlands) and the highest CSAM availability rate (880.9 reports/notices per 10,000 population) in the region.

CSEA prevalence and CSAM: South Asia

An estimated 12.5% of children in South Asia reported experiencing rape or sexual assault before the age of 18, with the prevalence being higher for females than males. Representative studies supporting this estimate were conducted in one third of the countries in South Asia (India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka), and therefore the figure should be interpreted as reflecting only those countries rather than the region as a whole. Other than India, which is commended for its level of transparency in police data, the lack of available data and differences in recording systems across the region also create substantial gaps and inconsistencies, affecting our ability to estimate and compare the prevalence of abuse.

Within the region, India, Bangladesh and Pakistan have the highest volume of CSAM reports and together account for nearly all reports in the region, primarily based on reports by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). However, if we take population size into account, it is the Maldives that has the highest CSAM availability rate of any country within the region with 94 reports/notices per 10,000 population in 2024, followed by Bangladesh with 64.1 reports/notices per 10,000 population.

Patterns beneath the data

This section of the findings explores patterns of CSEA from the data including the link between online and offline abuse with a focus on familial abuse data, sex and/or gender differences in CSEA data, and youth-produced imagery. These findings support more effective prevention and response strategies.

Online-offline continuum: Focus on familial CSEA

Through our analysis of representative surveys, we explored the different types of perpetrators – an under-researched area within the field of CSEA.

Global NCMEC data on law enforcement action provides new insights into perpetrators associated with CSAM production. These data are drawn from large-scale online detection and then enhanced through law enforcement investigation to identify offenders in certain

cases. The majority of CSAM production in this dataset involved perpetrators known to the child, most often nuclear family members. These findings should be interpreted with caution, as big-data sources are more likely to capture certain abuse scenarios and may miss youth-produced material. By contrast, survey data often highlight youth-produced images as the most common form. The two approaches therefore illuminate different aspects of the problem, which remains one of the central debates in the field. This is the first time perpetrator information has been available from large-scale CSAM datasets, offering important but partial insights into production dynamics.

Sex and/or gender differences in CSEA data

Across nearly all of our ITL Index 2025 indicators, particularly lifetime (before the age of 18) experiences, CSEA is more prevalence among females than males in Western Europe, although boys are also victims at rates that may be higher than often assumed. This is similar when we look at experiences in the past year, although the gap between females and males is smaller than for lifetime experiences. In the specific category of unwanted exposure to sexual content, males show a higher past year prevalence than females. This is consistent with existing research on forced or unintentional exposure to pornography among children defining this type of harm as a violation of their rights and highlighting negative impacts on their wellbeing. There are, however, large data gaps in South Asia, which has a lack of representative survey data disaggregated by sex and/or gender. This means that it is difficult to understand the prevalence of CSEA by sex and/or gender in the region.

Youth-produced images

CSAM metadata analysis conducted for ITL Index 2025 shows an overall increase in 'self-generated' content, whether through public reporting, victim reports, analyst directed searches or identified by web crawlers. When youth-produced images circulate online the purpose of their generation is often difficult to ascertain. It may reflect an increase in abusive or harmful behaviour between children/peers. It may also reflect the abuse of children by adults, stemming from online solicitation, non-consensual taking and sharing of images and videos, and through sexual extortion. The imagery of this kind challenges previously held definitions for CSAM and requires a wider understanding of what sexually abusive material of children is.

Forces shaping the scale of TF-CSEA

The scale and nature of TF-CSEA, whether it's CSAM that is detected online or whether it's experiences of TF-CSEA as self-reported by children in surveys, is shaped by many factors including societal perceptions and how these influence policy and practice. Debates on policy decisions which make their way into the public sphere, such as end-to-end encryption (E2EE) and online safety regulations, in turn influence both the risks children take and the ability to tackle and prevent abuse. Technological change can improve the ability for abuse to be disclosed, but it can also contribute to wider structural and systemic factors that enable CSEA to persist.

A standardised approach to CSEA

Too often, CSEA is only defined and tracked through the narrow lens of national criminal law, which varies widely from country to country. A standardised approach to CSEA, in which a consistent set of measures is applied to CSEA regardless of a country's legal framework, allows for the comparison of harm across national borders. This means using common indicators, categories, definitions and typologies so that data can be aggregated and compared internationally. There is still a large evidence gap in this area on how questions and definitions in the CSEA field are interpreted across cultures and countries.

Policy decisions on CSAM

Decisions made by technology companies, governments and regulatory bodies can lead to an increase or decrease in the amount of CSAM that is reported to or discovered by the leading CSAM detection organisations. This is demonstrated, for example, through the implementation of E2EE in communications data as the default setting. Between 2023 and 2024, all organisations tasked with CSAM data collection showed fluctuations in the amount of CSAM they assessed, but to differing proportions and in differing directions.

Legislative decisions

The year 2022 saw a wave of legislative changes aiming to put parameters around the responsibility of technology platforms to ensure user safety around the world, with new legislation introduced in the European Union (EU), Australia, the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States (US). ITL Index 2025 data for Western Europe suggests that, for countries that have recently enacted regulations, these regulations are helping CSAM content to be identified and appear to be targeting the hosted content. This comes from early insights, as shown in the data for these countries; a more thorough evaluation of the impact of regulation is needed to eliminate alternative scenarios driving the changes in data.

Technological changes

An increasingly prevalent example of technological change influencing how people offend against children online is CSAM generated by artificial intelligence (AI), known as AI CSAM. The volume of AI CSAM is increasing across all data sources that track this as a specific category of material. The most recent analysis of emerging AI CSAM suggests this material is often of the more severe categories, almost completely depicting female children. As AI CSAM can be manipulated to the specifications of its creator, the increasing severity noted by Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), and its implications for female victims, should be of note to the child protection sector, as it may suggest interest in obtaining this type of material.

CSAM removal

The amount of time taken to remove CSAM content differs across take-down organisations and data sources. This is influenced by an increase in overall CSAM volume. Despite the best efforts of those working to remove CSAM, the length of time between CSAM being first sighted and taken down is increasing, which means that perpetrators have more time to download and re-share reported images. Known CSAM continues to circulate, which can be seen through an increase in the proportion of CSAM circulating that is already 'known'.

Community and child-friendly reporting mechanisms

Child helplines can be a lifeline to those seeking support or advice. However, there are barriers to accessing these services, such as connectivity, language, stigma, concerns about being traced, and a lack of awareness that these services even exist. Moreover, cultural factors influence outreach to child helplines, such as religious-cultural norms and beliefs which may influence whether or not families, individuals and/or children feel comfortable seeking help. Furthermore, people may not view these services as acceptable.

Data foundations

What, who and how we measure, matters. CSEA data measurement needs to be strengthened, from the very beginning – with how harm is reported, recorded and counted – all the way through to how that same data is contextualised, analysed and interpreted to make change.

How we measure CSEA

Reliable data on CSEA is essential for effective prevention, protection and policy-making. However, differences in how cases are reported, recorded and counted across jurisdictions

and platforms can lead to inconsistencies in official statistics. These variations, shaped by differing legal frameworks, administrative practices and crime counting rules, can obscure the true scale of harm.

CSAM contextual influences

Many extenuating factors can impact on the volume of CSAM reports received in a year. One of these contextual factors is organisational change and the impact that this can have, particularly on big data such as CSAM data. For example, there was a drastic impact on the number of reports received by the International Association of Internet Hotline Providers (INHOPE) in 2024 due to the improved processes of one of three new hotlines.

Underreporting and underrepresentation

No single data source can give us a complete picture of CSEA. Prevalence surveys, police records and hotline data, and big data on CSAM, all have gaps and may underestimate the true scale of CSEA in some sources of data and potentially overestimate it in others. For example, gaps exist regarding data on children under five years old, children in conflict zones, marginalised groups, children affected by online abuse and countries with no relevant legislation.

Data gaps and limitations

Although ITL Index 2025 draws on multiple data sources, there are still gaps in reliable, representative and comparable data. These challenges in data coverage and availability are exacerbated as existing data sources from established data owners decline, high-quality data from gold-standard representative surveys by countries are lacking, and inconsistencies persist in how administrative data is captured and reported, even within a country.

Conclusion: Data to action

We know that the scale of abuse, as well as how much needs to be done to better protect children, can be overwhelming. However, we also know that there is a pathway to reaching this impact. This pathway has many steps, some of which need to be taken together in collaboration. Below we set out some practical steps, organised under action areas, which, while not being the end goal, show a tangible way to progress towards a safer future for children. Because Childlight is part of that journey, we also highlight where we are catalysing, collaborating and contributing to much-needed global change.

ACTION AREA 1

Technology-facilitated CSEA and CSAM data availability

- **We ask** governments to ensure that law enforcement agencies have access to referrals from key reporting bodies, such as the NCMEC and INTERPOL, among others, and the ability to triage those referrals to identify children and remove CSAM. This reflects our understanding that in some countries such agencies may face serious challenges in terms of data access, supportive legislation, training or resources to act on CSEA intelligence. Specifically, we ask for prioritised support in the Netherlands and the Maldives, which have high rates of CSAM reports per 10,000 population, and India, which has a high volume of CSAM overall.
- **We commit** to working with countries to understand their current ability to access, triage, prioritise and use CSEA data, through our Childlight Technical Advisory Programme (C-TAP). We commit to providing targeted support and advice for high priority countries that show a willingness to improve their capability – with support for the Netherlands, the Maldives, India and Pakistan underway. We also commit to further research country contexts where CSAM rates are disproportionate to help support the

identification of root causes for prevention and response.

ACTION AREA 2

Familial child sexual exploitation and abuse prevention

- **We ask** that when a country survey is being designed or when CSAM data is being collected and analysed it includes categorisation of perpetrator type including familial abuse, where possible, to address data gaps in this area. Perpetrator type can be captured through two approaches: NCMEC data and surveys that disaggregate perpetrator categories.
- **We commit** to the continued analysis and disaggregation of data to shine a light on the prevalence of familial abuse, exploring this through work with survivor groups and specialist researchers to explore developing specific indicators in the 2026 edition of our ITL Index on Global CSEA.

ACTION AREA 3

Data completeness and quality

- **We ask** that every country funds and implements a representative victimisation survey, to fill existing data gaps. Specifically, we ask for greater data collection in South Asia, where there is very little CSEA data from other sources. This should include a common approach to typologies, methods and implementation to capture both in-person and technology-facilitated CSEA. An investment in training, resources and technology to capture child helpline data will yield more detailed, harmonised and comparable help-seeking data from under-researched areas. National surveys should be complemented by publicly available crime statistics and child helpline data for CSEA that include age, gender and/or sex and outcomes.
- **We commit** to identifying novel data sources and methodologies that can fill data gaps and contribute to country-level data on CSEA, especially where traditional survey data is lacking – and to making these indicators publicly available through our Index. For example, early scoping has indicated that for the East Asia and Pacific region, which is one of the regional priority areas for 2026, there will be limited data from the Pacific Islands. To address this, we will offer deep-dive analyses into Fiji and Papua New Guinea and explore working with data partners across other remote, rural, small population countries in our ITL Index 2026.

ACTION AREA 4

Regulation of online spaces

- **We ask** that countries uphold the best interests of the child and establish legislation that gives power to a governing body to set child-centric, gender-sensitive and inclusive standards for the safety of children in online spaces, as well as consequences if these standards are not met. Countries should reflect on the regulations in place in the EU, UK and Australia as a starting point on how to both protect children online and put legal provisions and systems in place to hold accountable those who facilitate abuse. Legislation and regulation of online spaces requires an even-handed approach accompanied by increased investment in developing technological innovation. This innovation must ensure that users' private data is protected, while also allowing for the investigation and prevention of online harms. There is more work to be done, with legislators and regulators having a difficult task ahead as they implement policies aimed

to create greater safety for all and critically evaluate those efforts.

- **We commit** to conducting evaluation research to better understand the impact of regulation on child safety across different legislative and regulatory frameworks. We also commit to sharing our CSEA prevalence and nature research with national regulators, such as Ofcom (UK), the E-Safety Commissioner (Australia) and Coimisiún na Meán (Ireland), among others. We also commit to using data to support governments to establish legislation in countries where it does not exist, to evaluating existing legislative and regulatory frameworks, and to continuing our research into AI CSAM accountability in legislation across countries. We commit to providing research that is without fear or favour, but always in the interest of children, through our membership of groups such as the Global Online Safety Regulation Network.

ACTION AREA 5

Connections to the field of gender-based violence

- **We ask** that when CSEA data is collected, it records both sex and gender. This will allow connection to the wider field of gender-based violence research (e.g., female genital mutilation, child marriage) and prevention programming, ensuring that support is calibrated by gender.
- **We commit** to continue to include a disaggregation of data by sex and gender, depending on the data source, in our ITL Index and upcoming editions of Searchlight – our biennial publication examining the nature of CSEA. We also commit to seeking funding to develop a doctoral student training network with a consortium of partners on technology-facilitated sexual and gender-based violence to further the field by bringing innovative methodological approaches and learning to CSEA from the violence against women field, and vice versa, as well as linking academic research to policy and practice improvements.

ACTION AREA 6

Survivor care and restitution

- **We ask** that the lived experience of survivors is included in the designing and setting of national policy on CSEA. This includes consideration of schemes to provide restitution, redress, justice and healing for survivors of CSEA, including holding those who commit or facilitate abuse to account.
- **We commit** to using our index findings alongside our Justice Beyond Borders research a legislative analysis of 28 countries on TF-CSEA cross-border survivor restitution, to highlight the need for an international pathway to a global restitution scheme. We commit to working with partners and supporting research on how global monetary funds operate and how such work could connect with the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

In the spirit of a shared vision and collaboration to protect children and prevent harm, we hope that you find Childlight's ITL Index 2025 both insightful and useful. If you use our research to catalyse or inform change for children, we would love to hear from you. Please let us know by writing to childlight@ed.ac.uk.

We also welcome feedback on our work and other opportunities to improve and enhance the Index. We want to make sure that our resources are useful in your practice, because without you, our insight cannot be translated into much-needed action for children.